

## THE BIG STONE GAP POST.

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SUBSCRIBERS are earnestly requested to observe the date printed on their address slips, which will keep them at all times posted as to the date of the expiration of their subscription. Prompt and timely attention to this request will save all parties a great deal of annoyance.

Better roads is what Wise County needs worst now.

Denver is the center of attraction this week.

The normal being held here is the largest in point of attendance ever held at this place.

Now would be a good time to re-organize the board of trade at this place, and do a little pulling together for the up-building of the town.

A large opera house for the Gap is still being talked of, and will probably become a reality in the near future.

The building boom continues in Big Stone Gap, and this fall will see some fine brick structures completed at this place.

Luke Wright the new Secretary of War belongs to that wing of the Democratic party which has contracted the habit of voting the Republican ticket.

It will take Mr. Taft some time to break himself of the habit of starting for the depot every time he hears a train whistle.

According to the packers, beef has gone up because of the scarcity of cattle. A good many of us thought it was because money is becoming too plentiful.

The Fourth of July is the one day when the President of the United States is not regarded as the big noise.

The farmers are having one of the best crop seasons ever experienced in this section. Hard times are not hurting the farmer, who is the most important individual of Uncle Sam's subjects.

That Chicago woman who died after fasting forty days must have saved enough on her meat bill alone to pay her funeral expenses.

The Democrats will unquestionably nominate Mr. Bryan at the National Convention being held in Denver this week.

The "Life of Taft", when published, will probably look like a greatly enlarged edition of "Around the World in Eighty Days."

A Niagara Falls man has announced that he will shoot the whirlpool rapids in a canoe. If he wants to commit suicide he will find shooting the rapids just as effective as shooting himself.

"What will Roosevelt do after March 4 next?" inquired a contemporary. A number of people in this country have long wondered if there is anything he won't do, provided the notion to do it strikes him.

Mr. Bryan's assertion that the Republican platform repudiates Rooseveltism will mildly surprise the people who thought Roosevelt wrote it.

The near-prominent citizen, who voted his party all his life, but is going to switch this year and support Taft or Bryan, as the case may be, is already getting his name in the papers, just as he does every four years.

The article in a recent issue of this paper on Judge Mann's failure to vote on the bill to tax liquors sold on dining cars stirred up a racket—much more of a racket than was intended or anticipated. It looks to an outsider, in the absence of any explanation from Judge Mann, as a mistake that he did not do so. The fact, the only explanation we have seen given, that Mr. Dadmun and the Anti-Saloon League did not want him to do so, is hardly satisfactory in the absence of other reasons. He may have been wise in not so voting. But in the absence of an explanation it must be put down mildly as a mistake. The introduction of the Rhea resolution in the Ninth District meeting at Roanoke, was a grievous mistake. The resolution was tacked on to several others—good ones, and to vote against one was to vote against all. The vote was "unanimous," that is, no one voted "no," but the aye vote was weak, both in number and volume. If the parties back of this resolution thought to win favor with two opposing factions, they will find out later that it was a mistake.—Clinch Valley News.

## The Remedy That Does.

"Dr. King's New Discovery is the remedy that does the healing others promise but fail to perform," says Mrs. E. R. Pierson, of Auburn Centre, Pa. "It is curing me of throat and lung trouble of long standing, that other treatments relieved only temporarily. New Discovery is doing me so much good that I feel confident its continued use for a reasonable length of time will restore me to perfect health." This renowned cough and cold remedy and throat and lung healer is sold at J. W. Kelly's drug store, 50c and \$1.00 a bottle. Trial bottle free.

## RECOGNIZING THE SOUTH.

President Roosevelt's appointment of Hon. Luke Wright as Secretary of War is something out of the usual order. It is a novel thing for a Republican President to appoint a Democrat to a cabinet position. It is almost startling to see such a president appoint an Ex-Confederate Captain as Secretary of War. This is a recognition of the South that should show Southern people that we have a truly united country and that a Republican administration can be as friendly to this section as a Democrat one. With the probability of Mr. Taft's election becoming a certainty, if Bryan is nominated, we hope that Virginia will receive recognition at his hands. This State has had no member of the cabinet since Buchanan's administration and we see no reason why an administration as friendly to the South as Mr. Taft's will be, should not have a Virginian as a member of the official family. There is but one man in the State upon whom all Republicans would unite and unite most heartily, and that man is Hon. C. Bascom Slemple. Mr. Slemple is a young man of unusual executive ability, of brilliant attainments and would make an ideal cabinet officer. Should Mr. Taft see fit to offer him a position in his cabinet, he would please the Republican party of this State, and we might say, of the entire South. He would gain in Mr. Slemple a thoroughly equipped and faithful official, and would honor a man whom those who know, esteem worthy of any honor that can be bestowed upon him. We believe that Mr. Taft will not pass by Virginia and that from Virginia he will select C. Bascom Slemple as a representative of all that is most enterprising in the Old Dominion.—Friederickburg (Va.) Journal.

## NORMAL.

The enrollment at the Normal up to yesterday (Tuesday) evening is as follows:

Scott,	69
Wise,	61
Lee,	52
Dickenson,	39
Russell,	35
Tazewell,	11
Buchanan,	9
Washington,	1
Total,	277

This enrollment at the close of the first week's work is 36 more than for the entire session of 1906, and 47 more than for the session of 1907.

The largeness of the classes in most of the studies has made necessary their division into two to four sections in order for their accommodation in the large rooms of the public school building.

The difficulties of classification and the conflicts of studies, always found at the beginning of the work of a Normal, having been overcome, the school is now moving with clock-like precision.

The teachers are manifesting an earnest spirit of work and the attendance in point of regularity and punctuality is excellent—nearly all the teachers being present on time at all their classes.

Several of the instructors are having quite a strenuous time; the multiplication of sections caused by the large attendance having almost doubled the number of lectures originally contemplated in some subjects.

It is expected that quite a number of teachers will yet enter, and that the enrollment will reach at least 300 by the end of the term.

The people of Big Stone Gap are doing nobly in the entertainment of the teachers, and are exerting all their powers to make their stay among them as pleasant as possible. This spirit is much appreciated by the teachers, who earnestly hope that this commendable course of the citizens of the town will go far towards securing the permanent establishment of the Normal at this place.

Principal elect, J. H. Hicks, of the Big Stone Gap Schools, was in attendance upon the Normal two or three days last week. Mr. Hicks made an interesting talk to the teachers, and also favored them with a delightful song, for which he was escorted, and responded with a humorous ditty that brought down the house. We think the impression he made upon the teachers was very favorable. We gladly welcome him to our midst, and predict for him a successful career as principal in our schools.

Principal J. A. Ashworth, of the Norton school, came in Monday, and is making himself useful as a member of the committee on course of study for the graded schools of our county. He is one of our most successful teachers.

Prof. Harris Hart will be here to visit the normal next Thursday and Friday. He is conductor of the normal at Emory and Henry College, and School Inspector and Examiner for this District. His visits are always of much interest to the teachers, and his advice and the information he is always ready to impart on school matters are much appreciated.

Mrs. Carter, renowned Shakespearean reader, will be here on Thursday and Friday of next week, and will give readings both nights. No teacher should fail to hear her.

## MAMMOTH CAVE.

There is an interesting bit of history connected with the cave. Few Americans are aware that it helped to save the country in the war of 1812 by furnishing saltpeter for the manufacture of gun powder, but such is the case. The powder used by Old Hickory in whipping the British so handsomely at New Orleans in 1815 is said to have been made with saltpeter from the Mammoth Cave. As early as 1800, a Mr. Fowler obtained, it is said, 100,000 pounds of nitre from twenty-eight times one caverns that had been discovered in Kentucky.

In 1806 Dr. Samuel Brown, of

Lexington, rode a thousand miles on horseback to Philadelphia, to lay before the American Philosophical Society, in session there, the facts about the presence of nitre in these caverns, saying that the deposits would be especially valuable in case of war with any foreign power. Brown did not mention Mammoth Cave by name at that time, and the probability is, as local tradition asserts, that it was first discovered by White in 1809, when a hunter named Houchins or Hutchins entered it in pursuit of a wounded bear. Bayard Taylor says it was first discovered in 1802, but does not give his authority.

The only value set on it at first was the nitrous earth it contained.

For this a Mr. McLean paid forty dollars for the cave and two hundred acres of land around its mouth. McLean sold it to a Mr. Gatewood; he to Messrs. Gratz and Wilkins, who derived a fortune from the saltpeter made there during the war of 1812. The embargo cut us off from any other supply, and the output of saltpeter from this cave enabled our manufacturers to make sufficient powder to carry on the war.—New York Post.

## CAN VIRGINIA MAKE HER OWN SUGAR

At the present time there is considerable interest in sugar beet culture in Virginia, largely owing to the efforts of the Norfolk and Western Railway, which has employed a beet-sugar expert to instruct farmers in the methods of raising this crop. We have just received from the Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station, Circular No. 1, "Sugar Beets in Virginia," by Dr. W. B. Ellet. This circular gives the results of several years' work. The conclusion reached is that sugar beets can not be grown profitably, except as a stock feed, in Tidewater and the lower portions of Piedmont Virginia; but there is a possibility that the Valley and the Southwest may be able to raise beets sufficiently rich in sugar to make the industry profitable. A cool and moist summer is needed to develop sugar in beets. Only the western part of the State, owing to its altitude, can supply these conditions. At Blacksburg, in Montgomery County, a yield of thirteen tons per acre was secured, analyzing 12 per cent sugar. It will take two or three seasons more to fully determine whether it is practicable to introduce this new industry. If it is demonstrated that beets of sufficiently high tonnage per acre and sugar content can be grown, there is further to be considered the big questions of labor and transportation. Farmers in western Virginia are urged to plant not over one-eight acre of beets for trial. These trial beets are not to be wasted, for they make an excellent stock feed, especially for milk cows. The circular mentioned can be obtained free by writing to the Agricultural Experiment Station, Blacksburg, Virginia.

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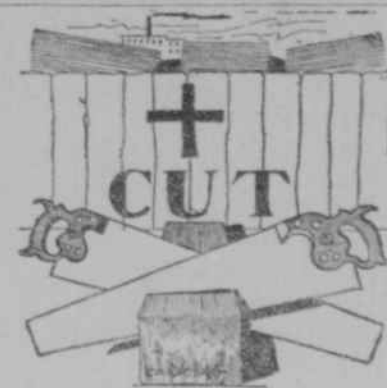
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to have the baby's picture taken. Don't put it off, for soon the little one will have outgrown many of its cute ways and regret of your action will haunt you when memory in her caprices, reverts to your error.

My patrons are my best recommendation. Ask 'em about my work and business method.

G. D. JENKINS, THE  
BIG STONE GAP, VIRGINIA.